

at least one of said first and second primary layer regions includes a plurality of sublayers;
 wherein
 said absorbent core has a dry thickness of not more than about 6 mm, and a minimum
 crotch width of not more than about 10 cm.

3. (amended) An article as recited in claim 1, wherein said article is configured for use by an adult, and wherein said absorbent core has a minimum crotch width of not more than about 14 cm.

23. (amended) An absorbent article, comprising:
 a backsheet layer;
 a substantially liquid permeable topsheet layer;
 an absorbent composite structure sandwiched between said backsheet and topsheet layers,
 said absorbent composite including an absorbent core having a first primary layer region and at least a second primary layer region;
 at least one of said first and second primary layer regions having a Liquid Wicking Value of at least about 38%; and
 at least one of said first and second primary layer regions includes a plurality of sublayers;
 wherein
 said first primary layer region includes a first superabsorbent having a first Tau value; said second primary layer region includes a second superabsorbent having a second Tau value; and said first Tau value is greater than said second Tau value.

Remarks

The claims have been amended to expedite the prosecution of the present application. A **Version Of Claims With Markings To Show Changes Made** is enclosed and made a part hereof.

Claims 1, 4 and 6-8 have been rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). The rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth in Applicants' **Amendment -1** dated December 5, 2000.